

## PRAYING WITH THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

33<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR C

GOSPEL – LUKE 21:5-19

### “THE DESTRUCTION OF THE TEMPLE FORETOLD”

When some were talking about the Temple, remarking how it was adorned with fine stonework and votive offerings, Jesus said, ‘All these things you are staring at now – the time will come when not a single stone will be left on another: everything will be destroyed.’ And they put to him this question: ‘Master,’ they said ‘when will this happen, then, and what sign will there be that this is about to take place?’

‘Take care not to be deceived,’ he said ‘because many will come using my name and saying, “I am he” and, “The time is near at hand.” Refuse to join them. And when you hear of wars and revolutions, do not be frightened, for this is something that must happen but the end is not so soon.’ Then he said to them, ‘Nation will fight against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be great earthquakes and plagues and famines here and there; there will be fearful sights and great signs from heaven.

‘But before all this happens, men will seize you and persecute you; they will hand you over to the synagogues and to imprisonment, and bring you before kings and governors because of my name – and that will be your opportunity to bear witness. Keep this carefully in mind: you are not to prepare your defence, because I myself shall give you an eloquence and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to resist or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, relations and friends; and some of you will be put to death. You will be hated by all men on account of my name, but not a hair of your head will be lost. Your endurance will win you your lives.’

## Hearing!

**"Speak Lord your servants are listening"**

*Slowly read the Gospel passage; listening carefully to the story. Read it intentionally, so as to perceive the small details we can miss on an initial reading. These small details might be the bridge between the Gospel Story and the story of your life.*

- What phrase or word resonated with you in your reading of this text?

\*\*\*\*\*

## Happening

**Through the lens of the Gospel we now look with compassion  
at the story of our lives**

*Having listened to the text of the Gospel now let it speak to the text of your life story. Become aware of where this Gospel story is already alive in your life or in your community. Or maybe you notice where it is absent in your life? Where might this Gospel story be inviting life and hope into aspects of your life that long for resurrection and new life?*

\*\*\*\*\*

## Hoping

**What do you want to say to the Lord in light of what you  
have shared, or what you have heard others share during  
this time of prayer?**

The Gospel always leads us to places of hope, possibility, and new beginnings. It awakens us too where and what we should be grateful for. It leads us to where God is waiting and inviting us to grow in freedom, inner peace and maturity as a disciple. What prayer is in your heart as you draw to a close this period of prayer?